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ACTION: NONE

INFO: EILE, RE, CI-3, CI/FL, CR/E, CBES/ARO,

EPS/EG-2, D/FBIS-2, IAD/CAS-3, IAD/IC, ICS/HTO, NIO/PE, NIO/USSR,

ODPH-H, ODPN-N, ODPS-S, DER-3, OGI/E/ED, OGI/I/PI, OGI/R-2, OGI/R/AF,

OIA/EREB, OOE/EE/R, OOE/EEPO-3, ODE/WE, OPA/II, OSA/CS/CA, OSA/CS/E,

OSA/EA/G, OSA/SE, OSA/SE/I, OSA/SE/R, OSR/MEDA, OSR/MEDT, OSR/MEE,

OSR/IF, PLANFAC-E, POLE-E, BE, SE-3,

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E.O. 12065: RDS-3 12/17/01 (SCANLAN, JOHN D.)

TAGS: PL, US, PEPR, PINT

SUBJECT: POLISH AMBASSADOR ON SITUATION IN POLAND

1. (S - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. POLISH AMBASSADOR SPASOWSKI CALLED ON DAS SCANLAN AT HIS REQUEST ON DECEMBER 17 TO PROVIDE POLISH GOVERNMENT'S VIEWS ON DECLARATION UP MARTIAL LAW AND U.S.-POLISH RELATIONS.

3. SPASOWSKI BEGAN BY STATING THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

THE SITUATION IN POLAND IS RELATIVELY CALM AND STRIKES IN MOST AREAS HAVE BEEN BROKEN BY POLITICAL-ADMINISTRATIVE

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State Dept. review completed

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MEANS.

THE PROCESS OF ISOLATING THOSE WHO INITIATED THE STRIKES AND OTHER PROTESTING GROUPS IS CONTINUING.

-- IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT VIOLENCE HAS NOT BEEN EMPLOYED.

-- THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IS VERY DIFFICULT, PARTICULARLY

IN TERMS OF FUEL, COAL AND MEAT.

POLAND HAS TURNED TO SOCIALIST COUNTRIES FOR ASSIST-ANCE, AND HAS RECEIVED ADDITIONAL HELP FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND HUNGARY.

POLAND HAS DECIDED TO PERMIT ASSISTANCE FROM CHARITABLE. GROUPS TO CONTINUE TO ENTER THE COUNTRY.

-- MOST WESTERN COUNTRIES HAVE REACTED TO POLAND'S DECLAR-ATION OF MARTIAL LAW IN A CAREFUL, RESTRAINED MANNER.

THE MOST VIOLENT REACTION HAS COME FROM TRADE UNIONS. SPASOWSKI SAID HE HAD ALSO BEEN ASKED TO STRESS THE FOLLOWING:

THE STEPS WHICH WERE TAKEN REPRESENTED A LAST-DITCH EFFORT TO SAVE EUROPE AND POLAND FROM A CATASTROPHE!

THE COUNTRY'S POLITICAL AND SOCIAL LIFE HAS NOT BEEN FOLCE INTERRUPTED.

THE COUNCIL OF NATIONAL SALVATION IS NOT SUPPLEMENTING THE CONSTITUTED ORGANS OF AUTHORITY. ITS PURPOSE IS TO INSURE A RETURN TO LAW AND ORDER IN THE COUNTRY.

THE GOVERNMENT IS NOW CONSIDERING THE IDEA OF WORKING TOWARD A NATIONAL CONSENSUS WHILE LOOKING FOR WAYS OF IMPLEMENTING REFORMS.

- IT IS HOPED THAT COUNTRIES FROM THE WEST WILL PROVIDE

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ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, ESPECIALLY IN THE INTEREST OF PROMO-TING STABILIZATION AND THE PROCESS OF RENEWAL.

THE DECLARATION OF MARTIAL LAW IS A SOVEREIGN ACT BY THE POLISH STATE, AND WARSAW IS SOLVING ITS OWN PROBLEMS IN ITS OWN WAY.

TURNING TO THE QUESTION OF FOREIGNERS IN POLAND, SPASOWSKI SAID HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INFORM THE DEPARTMENT THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF MARTIAL LAW HAS NOT CREATED A THREAT TO THE LIFE OR HEALTH OF FOREIGNERS LIVING IN POLAND. THE POLITICAL AUTHORITIES ARE READY TO RENDER FOREIGNERS ALL NECESSARY ASSISTANCE AND HELP WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF POLAND'S LAWS.

5. FINALLY, SPASOWSKI SAID FOREIGN MINISTER CZYREK HAD ASKED HIM TO CONVEY TO THE DEPARTMENT HIS GOVERNMENT'S

CONCERN OVER THE USG'S DECISION TO WITHHOLD ADDITIONAL . AGRICULTURAL ASSISTANCE TO POLAND BECAUSE OF THE DECLARATION OF MARTIAL LAW.

SCANLAN SAID HE WOULD PASS SPASOWSKI'S COMMENTS ON. AND WHEN ASKED FOR HIS REACTION TO THE POINTS NOTED ABOVE STATED THAT WHEN THE U.S. SUSPENDED AID TO POLAND, WE CALLED ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT IT WAS FOR THE "TIME BEING" BECAUSE WE HOPED THAT THE MILITARY REGIME THAT WAS BEING INTRODUCED WOULD INDEED BE MODERATE AND PERMIT THE SOCIAL AND POLITICAL PROCESS OF RENEWAL TO CONTINUE. UNFORTUNATELY, HE CONTINUED, WE DO NOT SEE THAT HAPPENING. MASSIVE FORCE HAS BEEN USED, AND THOUSANDS OF POLAND'S MOST PATRIOTIC AND DEVOTED WORKERS AND INTELLECTUALS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED. THERE IS NO INDICATION WHATSDEVER THAT THE NEW POLISH MILITARY REGIME INTENDS TO SEEK A POLITICALLY NEGOTIATED ACCOMMODATION WITH ALL OF THE SOCIAL, SPIRITUAL AND POLITICAL ELEMENTS OF POLISH SOCIETY WHICH, IN THE U.S. VIEW, IS THE ONLY WAY TO BRING ABOUT SOCIAL PEACE AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN POLAND. "YOU CANNOT NEGOTIATE FROM A JAIL CELL," SCANLAN OBSERVED. WHEN THE U.S. SEES THE POLISH MILITARY REGIME MOVE TOWARD A GENUINE POLITICAL ACCOMMODATION BY PERMIT-

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TING A FREE ATMOSPHERE OF NEGOTIATION BY FREE MEN, WE WILL BE PREPARED TO HELP ECONOMICALLY.

7. IN CONCLUSION, SCANLAN SAID HE WANTED TO TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PASS ON THE CONTENTS OF HOUSE RESOLUTION 240 ON POLAND.

BEGIN TEXT: REAFFIRMING THE SUPPORT OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE PEOPLE OF POLAND.

WHEREAS THE PEOPLE OF POLAND, THROUGH THE DRAMATIC ESTABLISHMENT OF LABOR UNION, SOLIDARITY, HAVE DEMON-STRATED THE TRADITIONAL POLISH LOVE OF FREEDOM;

WHEREAS THE DECISION OF THE POLISH COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH MARTIAL LAW COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MADE WITHOUT THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION;

WHEREAS THE SOVIET UNION BECAUSE OF ITS PROXIMITY TO POLAND, ITS TROOPS STATIONED IN-POLAND, AND ITS HISTORIC DISREGARD FOR CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS, MUST BE HELD ULTIMATELY RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTIONS OF THE POLISH COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT;

WHEREAS THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH IN POLAND HAS PLAYED A

CONSTRUCTIVE AND VITAL ROLE IN ESTABLISHING THE FRAMEWORK IN WHICH GAINS IN CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE PAST TWO YEARS; AND

WHEREAS THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES SUPPORT THE POLISH PEOPLE IN THEIR ATTEMPT TO SECURE BASIC HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (THE SENATE CONCURRING), THAT THE CONGRESS SUPPORTS THE SOLIDARITY MOVEMENT IN ITS ATTEMPT TO REGAIN HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS IN POLAND, DEPLORES THE ACTION OF THE POLISH COMMUNIST GOVERNMENT IN ESTABLISHING MARTIAL LAW, AND PLACES THE ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS SETBACK FOR HUMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS ON THE SOVIET UNION; AND BE IT FURTHER

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RESOLVED, THAT THE CONGRESS REAFFIRMS ITS SUPPORT OF THE POLISH PEOPLE AND ITS DEEP CONCERN OVER ANY SOVIET UNION INTERFERENCE IN THE AFFAIRS OF POLAND. END TEXT. HAIG

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